

FISCAL NOTE

SB 3398 – HB 3525

March 22, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to promulgate rules and regulations for organizations offering high school diplomas through completion of correspondence courses. Requires the Department of Education to grant a certificate of registration to any organization offering high school diplomas for completing correspondence courses. The registration requirement does not apply to public secondary or postsecondary institutions or approved private secondary schools. Any group offering high school credit for a correspondence course without first registering with the department commits a Class B misdemeanor punishable only by a fine not to exceed \$500.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

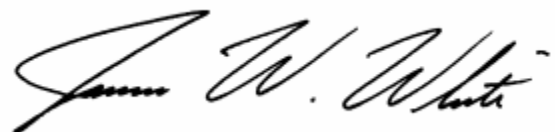
Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant
Increase State Revenues – Not Significant

Assumptions:

- According to *SBE Minimum Requirements for the Approval of Public Schools* “local boards of education may adopt policies permitting students to pursue correspondence courses for credit for graduation provided that a final examination covering all the terminal objectives of the particular state curriculum framework is given.”
- Most local boards are assumed to have developed requirements for online courses per SBE guidelines for organizations offering correspondence courses for high school credit.
- Any cost to the department to issue certificates of registration to such organizations is estimated to be not significant.
- The increase in state revenues from fines for failure to register with the department is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



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James W. White, Executive Director